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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/313,048	05/17/99	CARSON	103.009051

021186

NM11/0818

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EXAMINER
SCHROEDER, T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1811	#19

DATE MAILED: 08/18/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

**Response to Rule 312  
Communication**

Application No.  
**09/313,048**

Applicant(s)  
**Carson et al.**

Examiner  
**Ben Schroeder**

Group Art Unit  
**1624**



☐ The petition filed on \_\_\_\_\_ under 37 CFR 1.312(b) is granted. The paper has been forwarded to the examiner for consideration on the merits.

☒ The amendment filed on Mar 23, 2000 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

☒ entered.

☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention (Order 3311).

☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

*Mukund J. Shah*  
MUKUND J. SHAH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 1200

Art Unit: 1624

*Information Disclosure Statement*

1. The information disclosure statement submitted on March 23, 2000 was filed after the mailing date of the notice of allowability issued on February 28, 2000. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the 312 petition is granted and the information disclosure statement was considered by the examiner.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

2. Claims 1-11, 13-15, and 18-19 were allowed for reasons of record (see reasons for allowance sent on February 28, 2000 - paper number 13).

*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ben Schroeder whose telephone number is (703) 306-5815. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4734 for "unofficial" purposes and the actual number for **OFFICIAL** business is **308-4556**.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

tbs



**Mukund J. Shah**

**Supervisory Patent Examiner**

**Art Unit 1624**